

of the judgment obtained by the handwriting experts.¹ All those incidents — and also the Fashoda trouble, which if it had ended badly would have compelled Zola to leave England— affected the novelist's health, but he fretted more particularly on account of the ailing state of a pet dog, — a toy Pomeranian named the Chevalier de Perlinpinpin, but familiarly called Pinpin only — which he had been obliged to leave in Paris, foreign dogs not being admitted into England. Madame Zola was then in Paris in charge of the little animal and did everything possible for it, but it pined for its master, whose constant companion it had been,

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on whose writing-table and in whose wastepaper basket it

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had been for years accustomed to lie.

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Zola was passionately attached to his dogs and other animals, as his writings testify;² and when he learnt the truth about Pinpin, which was kept from him for a time, he grieved exceedingly and became quite ill, experiencing an attack of the angina from which he suffered periodically. As he would not see a doctor some medicine he was accustomed to take in such cases was obtained from "France. But more than once Vizetelly became alarmed respecting him, for the stifling fits left him quite exhausted. " I shall die like this some day," he said more than once, " but it is useless to get a doctor. There is nothing to be done beyond what I do."

Thus, still and ever, he fretted about his dog, particularly if a day or two passed without the receipt of a letter or a

¹ Zola had appealed against the first judgment, Tmt on, August 10 the Appeal Court confirmed the conviction, altering the original penalty (see *ante*, p. 463) to one of a month's imprisonment, a thousand francs' fine, and ten thousand francs' damages for each of the three plaintiffs.

² See notably his articles " Pour les Bêtes " and " Enfin Couronne" in "Kouyelle Campagne."